



# El-news

## IRTS supporting Amateur Radio



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[newsteam@irts.ie](mailto:newsteam@irts.ie) April 2014

### New 40m Counties Contest



The success of the 40 metre radio news has shown that the band is very popular with IRTS members. With this in mind the Society has decided to pilot a new 40 metre Counties Contest on Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 15:00 UTC. For more details on rules, frequencies and modes see [www.irts.ie/contests](http://www.irts.ie/contests)

### Triple Play Award



The ARRL Triple Play Worked All States Award is available to all amateurs worldwide who use Logbook of the World (LoTW) to confirm QSOs with each of the 50 US states on voice, CW and digital modes. We are delighted to see that Paddy EI1DG has now become the first EI to earn this award.

### Canadian 2m Brendan Quest

A record-setting transatlantic 2m QSO will be attempted continuously for one week from Pouch Cove, Newfoundland, Canada this summer. Marconi successfully transmitted across the Atlantic in 1901. No one has ever done this on the 2 meter band. For more information and photos on the Canadian Brendan Quest team see <http://www.brendanquest.org/>

### Live TV from the ISS

A group of Dublin based radio experimenters has been busy testing their equipment for receiving live television pictures from the International space station. More details on the tests including recording of live video showing the astronauts aboard the station can be found on the [Ham TV project](#) facebook page.

### SOTA - The Basics



Essex Ham has published a series of amateur radio getting-started guides, the latest covers **Summits On The Air (SOTA)**. SOTA is a scheme that encourages amateur radio operators to go portable and work from mountainous regions around the country. For more see [sota-basics](#). Download other getting-started articles covering Repeaters, eQSL and Slow Scan TV from [essexham.co.uk](http://essexham.co.uk)

### World Amateur Radio Day



April 18<sup>th</sup> marks **World Amateur Radio Day** which celebrates the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) in 1925. The theme '*Amateur Radio: Your Gateway to Wireless Communications*' has been chosen for this year. Listen out for the many special event stations that will be on the air on that day.

### RBN – Reverse Beacon Network



Want to know where your CW signals are being picked up, and how strong they are? It's easy, just call CQ with call sign and the RBN will tell you. The RBN is a worldwide network of receivers that identify the call signs of all callers in the CW bands, and post them to [reversebeacon.net](http://reversebeacon.net). Go on – try it today!

## Competition Winner



We would like to extend a hearty congratulations to **Malcolm Joyce, EI8FH** from Dublin, winner of the VHF/UHF Handheld in our March Draw.

## UK & Ireland Contest Club



The formation of the *United Kingdom and Ireland Contest Club* (UKEICC) has just been announced. Visit [www.ukeicc.com](http://www.ukeicc.com) to

see the clubs Aims and Intentions. Membership is open to anyone worldwide who is interested in HF contesting. Online Membership registration, which is free, will start in late April 2014.

## Rallies & Events



**The Radio Society of Great Britain AGM, Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**, 12 noon, Renaissance Hotel, Blackfriars Street, Manchester M32EQ. Venue within easy reach of Manchester mainline train stations with nearby car parking.



**Lough Erne Amateur Radio Club Annual Rally, Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**, The Share Centre, Lisnaskea, Co Fermanagh BT92 0EQ. Doors open 11.30am. Traders, clubs and organisations

with something of amateur radio interest to display, promote or trade are all welcome. Contact [Iain M10IIG](mailto:Iain.M10IIG) or see [www.learc.eu](http://www.learc.eu)

## History this month

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, legendary Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, the first man in space, would have turned 80. His 108-minute epic orbital flight on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 1961 ushered in the era of space exploration. To read more visit [rt.com](http://rt.com)

## Worked All Ireland Awards Scheme



The Worked all Ireland (WAI) Awards Scheme is open to Hams and SWL's throughout the world and is available for working EI/GI Grid Squares, Counties and Islands. The aim of the

awards is to foster friendship through Amateur Radio and promote activity in Ireland both fixed and mobile. For more information see <http://www.irts.ie/cgi/wai.cgi>

## DX Watch

### On The WWW

K4UEE gave a presentation on the FT5ZM DXpedition at the Charlotte (North Carolina, USA) Hamfest recently. You can see his talk on [youtube](http://youtube)

### San Andres Island mini-DXpedition

Operators Robert N7QT, Melanie AB1UH, Hugh W4VAB and Guy N7UN will be QRV as 5J0X from San Andres Island (NA-033) on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and PSK between April 2-14th. For more details on this mini-ham expedition see [5J0X](http://5J0X)

## Sales & Wants

### For Sale:

SCS-PTCII-ex Pactor modem with Pactor 3 licence €450 O.N.O. Kenwood TM-D710E Dualband Mobile Transceiver, used only in shack, as new, boxed with manual etc. €500 O.N.O. I would consider a Timewave DSP-599 unit as part exchange for either. Contact: John Ronan, EI7IG at 086 816 7310

### Wanted:

HF Linear for parts/repair. Any condition. Have you an old FL2100z - TL922A - SB220 - Heatherlite or any other that is unwanted or not working? Will arrange collection. Contact David EI5KG at 087 242 5643 or [ei5kgs@gmail.com](mailto:ei5kgs@gmail.com)

## Contests – April 2014

[www.hornucopia.com/contests](http://www.hornucopia.com/contests) : [www.rsgbcc.org/hf/](http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/) : [www.irts.ie/cgi/showrules.cgi?2m](http://www.irts.ie/cgi/showrules.cgi?2m)

**05 1500z, 24 hours – SPDX**, CW/SSB: send Serial, log 1-character District: work SP only.

**07 1900z, 90 mins – RSGB 80m**, CW: exchange Serials: work UK only.

**12 1200z, 24 hours – OK/OM DX**, SSB: Serials, or 3-character District (OK/OM):work everyone.

**16 1900z, 90 mins – RSGB 80m**, SSB: exchange Serials: work UK only.

**19 1200z, 36 hours – CQMM DX** (Brazil), CW: exchange Continent (EU,SA etc.),work everyone.

**21 1300z, 02 hours – IRTS 2m Counties**, SSB/FM: exchange Serials and County, work everyone.

**SD by EI5DI – free logging software for CW/SSB contests from** [www.ei5di.com](http://www.ei5di.com)